

Semester and Year: **Spring 2018**

Stony Brook University  
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
College of Arts and Sciences

**PHY 153 “Data Analysis for Physics and Astronomy with Python**

This course satisfies the DEC category N/A

This course satisfies the SBC category TECH

Course Instructor: Prof. Joanna Kiryluk

Section: 01

Office Hours: Doodle poll.

Instructor contact information [Joanna.Kiryluk@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Joanna.Kiryluk@stonybrook.edu), Physics C109.

TA: Daud Khan, [Daud.Khan@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Daud.Khan@stonybrook.edu)

Class capacity: Data analysis (no limit per session), Python programming ~ 20 students per lab session.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Must** match the *Bulletin* exactly.

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/ugrdbulletin/current/index.shtml>

If the course is a “topics course” see below.

This course is an introduction to statistical data analysis with modern techniques, including the Python programming language on Windows computers. It consists of two parts. Part A will review concepts and methods to characterize experimental data such as averages, variances, standard deviations, errors and error propagation, covariances and correlations. It will discuss the binomial, Poisson and Gaussian distributions, probabilities, confidence intervals, limits, hypothesis testing, chi2 minimization and straight line fitting, and will focus on their practical applications in experimental data analysis. Part B will introduce students with no prior experience in computing programming to the Python language, with emphasis on data-centric applications. This course will include plentiful practical examples and will require extensive use of computers outside the classroom. The aim of this hands-on course is to prepare Physics and Astronomy majors for experimental laboratory work.

Credits: 3

SBC: TECH

Course Topic

If a course is a topics course, indicate the specific topic description here.

**Part A: Introduction to Data Analysis**

1. Introduction: what is a measurement, random and systematic uncertainties
2. Data characteristics: distribution, mean and variance
3. Graphic representation of data: histograms, plots, linear and logarithmic scales
4. Statistics: binomial, Poisson and Gaussian probability distributions
5. Central Limit Theorem
6. The meaning of sigma
7. Partial differentiation, propagation of small uncertainties
8. Covariance and correlation
9. Least squares method
10. Combining results of different experiments, weighted averages
11. Straight line fit
12. Parameter and distribution testing and comparing results:  
test 3 sigma, chi-squared test, p-values, confidence levels

**Part B: Python Programming for Data Analysis:**

1. Python from scratch:
  - a. Installation and setup
  - b. IPython: An Interactive Computing and Development Environment
  - c. Variables, basic math, types of data, input, print formatting and strings
  - d. Decisions, loops, lists, functions, objects, modules
  - e. Data files: input and output, file formats
  - f. Data wrangling: Clean, transform, merge, reshape
  - g. Plotting and Visualization

2. Data analysis modules
  - a. NumPy Basics
  - b. SciPy Basics
3. Data analysis report
  - a. Latex

Course Pre/co-requisites

Indicate the approved course prerequisites (as published: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ugrdbulletin/current/index.shtml>)

C or higher in MAT125 or MAT131 or MAT141 or AMS151 or MAT171

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Include course objectives. If this course is approved to satisfy D.E.C. and/or the SBC, the objectives **must** address how the course outcomes relate to the specified D.E.C or SBC category. See the DEC descriptions in the Bulletin. Include a brief description of the opportunities this course would provide for students to acquire the knowledge or skills necessary to achieve the course learning outcome(s)

The students learning objective is to understand technology by gaining a hands-on experience in data analysis with modern computer-based tools, such as the Python programming language, with the goal to prepare Physics and Astronomy majors for experimental laboratory work. Students will become proficient at working with data in Python by learning the fundamentals of the language to write computer programs to solve data analysis problems. Specifically they will learn to solve data analysis problems using quantitative statistical methods and will learn how to obtain, and present results quantitatively and graphically. This hands-on course is ideal for starting Physics and Astronomy majors new to Python.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Attendance and Make Up Policy

-- Instructors may enforce their own course attendance policy (the university has no standard policy except the policy regarding absence due to university sanctioned events ... (e.g., athletic games; Stony Brook in Albany)

**Attendance is mandatory.** You may have at maximum 2 absences without serious excuse (serious excuse means medical or otherwise).

-- Policy for late work and tardiness

No late work will be accepted. Any (serious!) excuses (medical or otherwise) are to be documented and discussed with the instructor in a timely manner. Homework must be turned in by the date and time on the assignment, which will typically be scheduled during a lecture period. If you cannot make the lecture, you can bring your assignment to the instructor's office before the due date/time.

Description and schedule of Required Readings and/or Assignments.

Include bibliographical list of readings, library reserve items, etc.

**Text books:**

**Mandatory:**

1. "An Introduction to Error Analysis: The Study of Uncertainties in Physical Measurements, John R. Taylor

**Supplemental:**

2. "Introduction to Computer Science Using Python. A computational problem-solving focus.", Charles Dierbach
3. "A Practical Guide to Data Analysis for Physical Science Students", L. Lyons
4. "Python for Data Analysis: Data Wrangling with Pandas, NumPy, and IPython" W. McKinney

Requirements for written assignments (margins, font, style manual)

None.

Include a brief description of the graded assignments that the instructor(s) will use to evaluate the students' achievement of the outcome(s)

Homework: homework problems will be posted weekly.

Quizzes: quizzes will be given at the beginning of a class bi-weekly.

Exams

Number and Description of Exams (include dates in meeting schedule section below).

There will be two midterm exams, one on data analysis methods (Part A), and one on Python programming (Part B). Midterm exams will be given during regular lecture hours.

There will be one (final) take home project. Students will analyze a data set provided to them by using data analysis techniques, writing a Python computing program and writing a report.

#### GRADING:

Describe the components of the course, and indicate how each component of the course will be factored into the final course grade; often expressed in %

Indicate alphanumeric breakdown of grades or explicit description of the grading technique (i.e., description of the “curve,” or A= 95-100, A- = 90-95, or whatever the instructor defines)

Final grades will be determined by weighting the various portions of the course as follows:

- o 20% attendance & active class participation
- o 25% midterm exam
- o 25% homework
- o 30% final “take home project”: analyze lab data sample and write a report.

Grades:

- o Weighted average: 90 % - 100 % grade A
- o Weighted average: 85 % - 90 % grade A-
- o Weighted average: 80 % - 85 % grade B+
- o Weighted average: 70 % - 80 % grade B
- o Weighted average: 65 % - 70 % grade B-
- o Weighted average: 60 % - 65% grade C+
- o Weighted average: 50 % - 60 % grade C
- o Weighted average: 45 % - 50 % grade C-
- o Weighted average: 40 % - 45 % grade D+
- o Weighted average: 35 % - 40 % grade D
- o Weighted average < 35% grade F

**P/NC:** If you decide to take the course for **PASS/NO CREDIT**, you must change before the University-imposed deadline. All grades will be accessible via the blackboard for this course.

#### MEETING SCHEDULE

List each class meeting and assignments and topics for each. Include Exam Schedule and assignment due dates

The class will meet three times a week.

#### CLASS PROTOCOL

Cell Phone and electronic device statement

No cell phones or other “smart” devices with phone or WiFi capability will be permitted in the exams.

Class interruptions

#### CLASS RESOURCES (examples below)

Library resources

Blackboard

Writing Center

Career Center

Others (see link) <http://stonybrook.edu/aadvising/tut.html>

The University Senate Undergraduate and Graduate Councils have authorized that the following required statements appear in all teaching syllabi (graduate and undergraduate courses) on the Stony Brook Campus. See also <http://www.stonybrook.edu/provost/facultyinfo/Syllabus%20Statement.doc>

#### **DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT (must be the following language)**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

*[In addition, this statement on emergency evacuation is often included, but not required:*

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities> ]

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

**CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):**

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.